

*For Immediate Release*

**PortBlue and Broward Health Win the Critical Incident Management Systems for Healthcare Grant for Regional Deployment of CommandAware®**

Los Angeles, CA (Jan. 29, 2008) – PortBlue Corporation, a leading provider of hospital incident management systems, is proud to announce that Broward Health, on behalf of Florida’s Region VII Domestic Security Task Force, has been awarded the Critical Incident Management Systems for Healthcare grant by the Human Health & Services Office of Public Health and Science. This grant will be used to provide the regional hospitals a new level of preparedness and coordination during times of disaster through the region-wide implementation of PortBlue’s CommandAware hospital incident management system.

The CommandAware platform enables hospitals to be effective members of the national disaster management infrastructure by raising their level of preparedness and strengthening their response capabilities. Adopting the CommandAware system provides Region VII with the platform to easily meet the federally mandated capability requirements laid out in Homeland Security Presidential Directives 5 and 8, automates the NIMS compliance activities of the hospitals, and provides the regional leadership with the capabilities required in the FY 2007 ASPR guidelines.

CommandAware ([www.commandaware.com](http://www.commandaware.com)) offers hospitals best-practice guidance in developing a comprehensive incident management plan, built on a resource management platform that can be used in all operational conditions, from everyday hospital capacity management to mass casualty events. The CommandAware mission is threefold: to ensure that hospitals have a state-of-the-art disaster management plan that complies with best-practices and accreditation standards, to give disaster managers the information, work process tools, and resources they need to effectively respond to a full “all hazards” array of incidents, and to ensure that hospitals recover from incidents effectively, including financially. CommandAware tracks vital data to capture lessons learned from both emergency drills and actual incidents so that mistakes are not repeated and process improvements are made. The CommandAware resource management tool allows hospital administrators to identify and alleviate bottlenecks in patient flow, improving revenue generation and overall financial performance.

The Critical Incident Management Solutions for Healthcare program will provide an integral component in managing the redistribution of personnel, facilities, equipment, and supplies. As medical systems struggle with preparedness, response capabilities and surge capacity, the ability to accurately track patients and resources with communication systems is critical to enhance the overall community and healthcare preparedness, response, and recovery for public health emergencies. CommandAware provides Florida's Region VII with the technology platform to bring these capabilities to its member hospitals.

"This is of great benefit to Broward Health and the community for healthcare incident management," said Jeanne Eckes-Roper, director of emergency preparedness, Broward Health. "Region VII encompasses Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade and Monroe counties, which contain one-third of the state's population. It is critical to have this program in place."

#### **About Broward Health**

Broward Health, providing service for more than 50 years, is a nationally recognized community health system offering world class health care services to our neighbors in South Florida. One of the five largest public health systems in the nation, Broward Health operates more than 30 healthcare facilities, including Broward General Medical Center, North Broward Medical Center, Imperial Point Medical Center, Coral Springs Medical Center, Chris Evert Children's Hospital, Weston Regional HealthPark, Community Health Services and Broward Health Physician Group. For more information visit [www.BrowardHealth.org](http://www.BrowardHealth.org).

#### **About PortBlue**

PortBlue Corporation ([www.portblue.com](http://www.portblue.com)) develops and hosts knowledge based systems for the healthcare sector. The practical know-how of recognized experts is rapidly transformed into web-based training, work process and decision-support tools in the form of PortBlue hosted applications. PortBlue's systems mentor and guide users through key tasks and processes to optimal decisions and outcomes.